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no.6

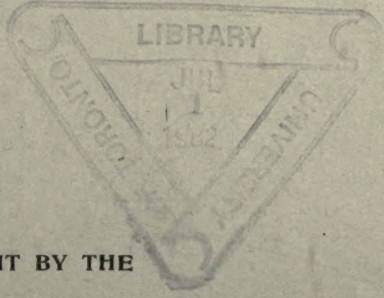
Vol. IV, No. 6. DESEMBER 1915. Prys 2d.

THE PYONEER

OV SIMPLIFYD SPELING.

KONTENTS.

Neu Yeer'z Konferens.—Our Ferst Reeder.—American Speling Bord Aneual Meeting.—The Nashonal Eunion ov Teecherz and Speling Reform.—Korespondens.—Noets and Neuz.—Pres Kutingz.—Editorial Noet.



PUBLISHT BY THE

SIMPLIFYD SPELING SOSYETI,

44 GREAT RUSSELL STREET, LONDON, W.C.

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32 Paternoster Row, E.C.

THE FERST REEDER IN SIMPLIFYD SPELING STANDZ FOR PEURITI OV SPEECH.

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The sekond edishon iz the rezult ov an eksperiment in a Scottish Skool, whair children hoo wer taut for TEN munths from the Reeder and for for munths in ordinari speling red and spelt az wel az children hoo for NYNTEEN munths had been taut on konvenshonal lynz oenli. A KLEER AND PRESYS ENUNSHIAISHON iz the rezult ov the speech training provyded by the FERST REEDER.

PROEZ AND POËMZ.

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Mr. A. C. HARRIS, Kounsil Skool, Burton Latimer, Kettering, ryts ov the Ferst Edishon: "Pleez aksept my thanks for the kopi ov NERSERI RYMZ, with which I am delyted. I long for the tym when I shal be engaijd in teeching sum such rashonal sistem ov speling, for I feel konvinst that it wil saiv the chyld'z tym, improov hiz reezoning fakultiz, and sertinli lyten the teecher'z laiborz. Az a test—raather a seveer wun—ov the soundnes ov the sistem, I plaist the book in the handz ov several ov the skolarz in Standerdz I and II, hooz aijez vairid from seven tu ait yeerz, and **hoo had reseevd no teuishon in the sistem,** and I woz gratifyd and sumwhot serpryzd tu fynd that thai red az freeli and az intelijentli from this neu book az thai kood from thair ordinari reederz, oenli an okaizhonal werd kauzing eni difikulti."

Edited by a Lekteurer in Fonetiks.

Redeust termz tu teecherz hoo euz the book in klaasez.

THE PYONEER

OV SIMPLIFYD SPELING.

VOL. IV, NO. 6. DESEMBER 1915.

NEU YEER'Z KONFERENS.

INTERESTING PROEGRAM.

MEMBERZ INVYTED.

THE Neu Yeer Meeting ov the Simplifyd Speling Sosyeti, held az part ov the grait Konferens ov Edeukaishonal Asoesiaishonz in the Euniversiti ov London, shood this yeer apeel mor strongli than ever tu memberz. A kordial invitaishon iz heer iseud tu aul. London memberz ar shoor tu be in thair multiteudz. We erj eech tu bring an unkonverted frend. The dait iz Janeuari 4, at 2.30 p.m.; the plais the Jehangier Haul, Euniversiti ov London. (Neerest staishon: South Kensington.)

Az a glaans at the proegram wil shoe, we hav sekeurd speekerz ov proovd ekselens.

Prezidenshal Adres—Prof. Gilbert Murray, LL.D., D.Litt., F.B.A.

Speeker—the Ryt On. Ser Frederick Pollock, Bart., LL.D., D.C.L.; subjekt—"Our Wardour Street Speling."

Speeker—R. W. Macan, D.Litt., Litt.D., T.C.D., Maaster ov Euniversiti Kolej, Oxford; subjekt—"Eekonomi and Beuti ov Simplifyd Speling."

Speeker—Walter Rippmann, M.A.; subjekt—"Simplifyd Speling and Fonetik Speling."

Despyt theez unhapi tymz, the oemenz ar pekeuliarli faivorabel. Our skeem haz been poot tu a praktikal test in a Scottish Elementari skool, with rezults that hav justifyd aul hoeps. The ridikeul born ov wont ov nolej haz dyd doun; we hav the Prezident ov the strongest organizaishon in Britain apeeling tu that organizaishon tu suport the reform by petishoning the Bord ov Edeukaishon for at leest an instaulment. This iz the moement when we must hoeld on tu the sukses we hav gaind that mor mai be ourz.

OUR FERST REEDER.

A KOMPETISHON FOR TEECHERZ.

WE ar ankshus tu noe the rezults ov eksperiments with the neu edishon ov our *Ferst Reeder*, which mai nou be obtaind from this ofis at 6d. a kopi. Vairius memberz hav riten saiing thai intend tu euz the *Reeder* in thair klaasez. For the best esai deskrybing and komenting on the rezults ov the eksperiment, we hav plezher in ofering a pryz ov too giniz and a sekond and therd pryz ov wun gini and haaf a gini.

Tym, ov kors, must be given the eksperiment, so that the dait for reseeving the esaiz kan not wel be erlier than September 1, 1916. This alouz ov at leest siks munths for the eksperiment tu be tryd in skoolz. The Editor rezervz the ryt ov withdrauing the ofer if a sufishent number ov entriz ar not reseevd.

The neu edishon ov the *Reeder* kontainz nerseri rymz and poëmz az wel az the stori ov *The Babes in the Wood* in proez. It iz beutifuli printed in typ which iz in akordans with the rekomendaishonz ov the Y-syt Komiti ov the British Asoesiaishon, and strongli bound in kloth. The kompilaishon haz been maid by Mr. Robert Jackson, Lekteurer in Fonetiks, Dundee Training Kolej. A sound chart iz prefikst which shood be ov real asistans in klaasez. The werdz or silabelz in chart praktis ar arainjd tu help speech training. Teecherz need hav no hezitaishon in komensing instrukshon in reeding from thiz book, for it haz been proovd in the eksperiment in the Scottish Skool, reported in our August number, that the transizhon tu konvenshonal speling iz eezili and rapidli maid. The eksperiment shoed that children hoo wer taut for *ten* munths from the *Reeder* and for for munths in ordinari speling red and spelt az wel az children hoo for *nynteen* munths had been taut on konvenshonal lynz oenli. Whair a number ov kopiz ar rekwyrd for a klaas eksperiment, theez mai be suplyd from the ofis, 44 Great Russell Street, London, W.C.

AMERICAN SPELING BORD ANEUAL MEETING.

WE ar aibel tu giv a sinopsis ov Prezident Grandgent's adres at the nynth Aneual Meeting ov the American Speling Bord.

Diferent Standerdz ov Pronunsiaishon in thair relaishon tu Fonetik Speling.

Tu estimait the ekstent tu which the reprezentaishon ov a wydli difeuzd langwij mai be redeust tu a euniform lojikal baisis, we mai

konsider whot haz been akomplisht with Spanish orthografi, which, amung modern nashonal spelingz, shoez the neerest aproech tu a peurli fonetik method. Remembering that the foundaishon on which it iz konstrukted iz a konservativ Castilian pronunsiaishon, we fynd that the deviaishonz from a striktli sistematik indikaishon ov speech ar feu, and, for the moest part, eezili keurabel by kertailment. The loekal diverjensez in oral euzij, on the uther hand, ar grait, boeth in Spanish America and in Spain itself; but, in so far az the oeld-fashond Castilian remainz everiwhair in the jeneral konshusnes az an ydeal typ, the orthografi mai, tu that ekstent, be kauld fonetik, eeven in thoez reejonz whair the kurent uterans iz veri diferent. In English we hav a similar diversiti ov pronunsiaishon, the moest important vairiaishonz being in the treetment ov *r* and in the eus ov "braud" and "flat" *a*. Az tu a komon standerd, we pozes az yet nun so authoritaitiv az the Castilian tradishon, but such an ydeal iz nou rapidli impoezing itself, cheefli under the inflooens ov the staij, which haz aulredi developt in the English-speeking werld, for seerius draama, a fairli konstant euzij.

Polisi ov Eksekeutiv Komiti.

The yeer haz been markt by a revolooshon in the polisi ov the Eksekeutiv Komiti. It haz bekum plain that propaganda by meerli printed mater did not meet the nesesitiz ov the kais, and the fors ov aijents in the feeld haz been inkreest tu fyv. Mesrz. Danton and Fulton maid toorz ov sumer skoolz, viziting neerli siksti institeushonz in therti-for Staits, and maiking about fifti publik adresez. Dr. A. Gideon woz emploid in a propaganda amung neuspaiperz. In the faul Mesrz. Danton and Esborn wer engaijd tu giv thair entyr tym tu feeld werk in the Eestern and North Sentral Staits respektivli; Mr. Fulton woz apointed feeld aijent for Virginia and the Carolinas, Mr. Croisant for Kansas, and Dr. Gideon woz kontineud az neuspaiper feeld aijent.

Sujestionz for fakulti akshon, aprooving the moovment and adopting the simpler aulternativ spelingz given in the leeding dikshonariz, tugether with the twelv werdz, and permiting steudents tu euz in thair riten werk eni simplifyd spelingz rekomended by rekognyzd bodiz ov skolarz and given vokabeulari plais in eni leeding dikshonari, wer printed and serkeulaited by the feeld aijents. Up tu the dait ov the Aneual Meeting siksti-siks edeukaishonal institeushonz had adopted rezolooshonz baist on theez sujestionz, giving, with the twenti-wun preeviusli rekorded, a toetal ov aiti-seven. (The toetal haz sins advaanst tu 111, November 1, 1915.)

The foloing teecherz' asoesiaishonz hav adopted faivorabel rezolooshonz : — Missouri S.T.A.; New Jersey S.T.A.; Oregon S.T.A., Western Divizhon; Kansas Asoesiaishon ov Teecherz ov English; Kounti Seuperintendents' Asoesiaishon, Washington; Brooklyn (N.Y.) T.A. The North Carolina S.T.A. haz apointed a Komiti on Simplifyd Speling. Simplifyd Speling Sosyetiz hav been organyzd in vairius institeushonz.

The M.E. Cherch Temperans Sosyeti haz serkeulaited several milion leeflets in Simplifyd Speling, and iz euzing it in aul its publikaishonz.

THE NASHONAL EUNION OV TEECHERZ AND SPELING REFORM.

THE PREZIDENT'S PROPOEZD POLISI.

By kynd permishon ov the "Schoolmaster" we print an artikel by Mr. W. B. Steer, Prezident ov the Nashonal Eunion ov Teecherz, which apeerd in the iseu ov November 27. It iz important az maiking a konseshon tu the demaandz ov speling reformerz. That the Prezident ov the strongest teecherz' organizaishon in England shood ekspres himself in the speshal organ ov that Eunion az "konvinst that an atemt shood be maid tu get the Bord ov Edeukaishon tu rekognyz a feu reformd spelingz" iz an event ov grait signifikans. The reezonabelnes ov Mr. Steer'z artikel wil sekeur for it a reezonabel resepshon. It shood no longer be posibel tu apeel from reezon tu prejoodis. Teecherz hoo noe Mr. Steer'z aktiviti in uther feeldz noe aulso that, in advokaiting speling reform, he speeks az a teecher tu teecherz.

SPELLING REFORM: IS ANYTHING POSSIBLE?

By the PRESIDENT OF THE UNION.

WE are all agreed that our English spelling is chaotic, and that there is an enormous expenditure of school time in the efforts of the teacher and children to overcome the difficulties. The spelling reformers are at work, but they are winning no relief for us. There is no doubt that the "Simplified Speling Sosyeti" is perfectly consistent in its suggestions, and that if we could decree a perfectly phonetic system we might just as well adopt their scheme forthwith. Yet, while we all recognize their earnestness and their consistency, and while we all acknowledge that they make out an unanswerable case for reform, we all, or nearly all, shrug our shoulders and dismiss them as mere dreamers. We receive their pamphlets in reformed spelling and we read them, but most of us, alas! *for the joke of the thing*. Why? If we are really suffering from the anomalies of our spelling, ought we not rather to praise them and back them up in their efforts? I believe that the reason of our indifferent attitude lies in the feeling that their scheme is so revolutionary that it cannot possibly succeed. They fail in their efforts because they are attempting too much at once. The reform of our spelling must be by evolution not by revolution. We must be content to take a few steps at a time.

SOMETHING PRACTICAL WANTED.

Now, I am quite prepared to accept the findings of the "Simplified Speling Sosyeti" with regard to the signs to represent the various sounds. They have given much attention to this matter, and since they choose *ee* for instance, in preference to *e-e* to represent the long sound, I am prepared to accept their decision. Their consistency commands my assent. So, what steps I can take in the direction of reform may with advantage be towards the "Sosyeti's" goal. If I cannot ride in their car, I need not scotch their wheels. I want the Union to do some-

thing practical—something which will be a real help to the teachers by securing a little relief. I am convinced that an attempt should be made to get the Board of Education to recognize a few reformed spellings. Let me illustrate what I mean by taking one word—"programme." An ordinarily intelligent child who had never seen the word would write "program," and it would be marked as an error. Then the time of both teacher and child would be spent in teaching the proper spelling of the word. Now, however short the time so spent, we must declare it to be a waste of time. If the etymologists insist that the generally accepted spelling must be retained because the Greek root is *gramma* then they must also insist that the following spellings shall be adopted:—"Telegramme, anagramme, monogramme, cryptogramme," &c. Look at the stupidity of the teacher's task unless uniformity is adopted. He corrects "program" to "programme"; he perhaps compels the child to write the word correctly six times, and the child at last fixes the "gramme" in his mind. Next day he has to write the word "telegram." He remembers his error of yesterday, and he writes "telegramme." The teacher marks it as an error, and the child writes "telegram" six times. He fixes that in his mind. Next day comes the word "anagram." It is a toss-up which he will write. Sheer luck may save him, but he is just as likely to have to write "anagram" six times. Next day comes the word "telegram." He has had this word before. Was this the word which had the *me*, or was it some other word? Poor kiddie! Yes, and poor teacher, too! For now it has become necessary to teach the general rule of *-gram* with the exception of "programme." Nothing but the silliest convention requires me and the child in the school to write "programme." But suppose the Board of Education instructed its inspectors to accept the spelling "program." It would not merely save the time spent on that one word, but on every word of similar ending. I have dealt with this one word at considerable length for two reasons:—First, to show that there are etymological inconsistencies; and, secondly, to show that a single exception to a general spelling rule involves an undue expenditure of time upon the rule itself. One other point may be dealt with by using the same illustration. It may be urged that "program" is an accepted spelling. Well, I have heard of class teachers, head teachers, and inspectors who have declined to accept it. Nuttall's, Chambers's, and Macmillan's Dictionaries all give it as an alternative, the last-named deliberately saying, "often, but less correctly, Program"; but there are other good dictionaries which limit themselves to "programme." Some inspectors we have all known seize upon a little thing like this, and insist on their own personal predilection. And I do wonder how many of us would be brave enough to teach "program" as the form to be adopted.

THE "-CEDE" AND "-CEED" ANOMALY.

Another good illustration may be found in the word "plough." I do not hesitate to say that "plow" is etymologically more correct than "plough," but we have most stupidly and most slavishly tied ourselves to the uglier spelling, and we enslave the children in the schools to the same stupidity. Then there are the words ending in *-cede* or *-ceed*. There is no etymological defence for the two forms, and the Board of Education would confer a real boon upon teachers of the upper standards if they were wise enough and brave enough to instruct their inspectors to accept "acceed, conceed, preceed, receed, seceed," and "interceed," as well as "exceed, proceed," and "succeed." (I deliberately omit "supersede." It comes from a different root.) It is quite useless to urge that the changed spellings are ugly. "Preceed" cannot be ugly and "proceed" be beautiful. Take another common termination. We have both *-er* and *-or* to indicate an agent (*e.g.* worker, observer, actor, sailor). Now, "acter" and "sailer" are as etymologically sound as "worker" or "observer," and there is no reason why the *-er* should not become universal. But some will say that "actor" is so pronounced. Let them look in their dictionaries. Similarly we might universalize the *-ent* termination and so discard the exceptional *-ant*, accept the *-ize* and discard the *-ise*. Then words in *-our* might well be Americanized and so made to conform with their compounds (*e.g.* why "colour" and "colorization"?).

With regard to the anomalous *ie* and *ei* I suggest nothing at present.

The well-known rule, "For the sound of long *e*, put *i* before *e*, except after *c*," is fairly satisfactory. But this rule might be universalized, and "weird" and "seize" become "wierd" and "sieze." "Either, neither," and "plebeian" are awkward, the first two because of alternative pronunciations. The third is scarcely within a child's vocabulary. It is a pity that it is not spelled "plebean." It is interesting to note here that the word "ceiling" conforms to rule in spite of etymological reasons to the contrary. (French *ciel*.)

This paragraph introduces suggested reforms. I insert it in order that teachers may decide whether the plan I suggest of universalizing accepted endings is not quite practical. The present labor of teaching our wierd spelling is a mere plowing of the sands. Let the Board of Education acceed to the request, and we will gladly sieze the opportunity of securing an instalment of relief. Tuters and scholers alike hope that at no distent date this new item for the Union's program may be successfully adopted.

Appeal to Board of Education.

I have written enough to indicate the lines on which, in my opinion, we should seek to remedy our anomalous spelling. There are other similar possibilities, but the foregoing are enough for a first attempt, I believe that they could be made the ground of a reasonabie and successful appeal to the Board of Education, and that, if their approval could be obtained, it would be a comparatively easy thing to obtain the support of publishers and writers of school books. The whole-hoggers may declare that I am merely tinkering with the problem. I agree, but I am convinced that we must proceed by small steps, and even the few reforms suggested above would save much time, much worry, aud many children's tears. Moreover, the few reforms which I suggest are all in the right direction, and would pave the way for further reform. The *-ceed* reform would, for instance, familiarize us more completely with the idea of *ee* as the proper sign for the long *e*. And in every line I hope that teachers everywhere will recognize that I am seeking some way out of one of the troubles of their every day's work.

THE SOSYETI'Z ATITEUD.

Ov the Sosyeti'z suport ov hiz propoezalz Mr. Steer kan feel ashoord. It ernestli dezyrz tu foster everi efort that wil demolish the fauls reverens for our kurent speling which iz bloking the wai tu proegres. The Nashonal Eunion kood doo much, with its strong ofishal pozishon, tu demonstrait tu the Edeukaishonal Authoritiz the dezyr ov teecherz for a beter sistem. Why shood it not giv definit ofishal suport tu the petishon aasking for a Roial Komishon ov Inkwyri? Signatoriz ar not komited tu the aprooval ov eni spesifik alfabetik reform; the degree ov reform iz left entyrli tu the wizdum ov the Komishon. The Edeukaishonal Authoritiz in uther landz hav aulredi pointed the wai. Az long agoe az 1911 the Edeukaishon Department ov Victoria iseud instrukshonz that aul printed mater iseud for, or by, the Edeukaishon Department shood be in akordans with sertin enlytend roolz, such az the omishon ov the eusles *u* in "honour, favour," ets. The imeediait kauz ov this departeur woz the reseet ov the proseedingz ov the Impeerial Edeukaishonal Konferens ov 1911, which paast eunanimusli a rezolooshon aferming the dezyrabiliti ov the simplifikaishon ov our speling, and invyting aul parts ov the Empyr tu taik such akshon az woz posibel tu rid English speling ov its erorz and abserditiz. Nor shood it be forgoten that it woz the rezolooshon ov the Nashonal Edeukaishon Asoesiaishon ov America tu adopt twelv simplifikaishonz which gaiv the kauz ov reform in America its ferst grait chaans. We hoep for definit akshon on the part ov the Nashonal Eunion ov Teecherz. Thairz iz a grait oporteuniti.

Vairid Pronunsiaishonz.

I hav never met with too personz ov edeukaishon hoo pronounst aul the werdz thai had in komon in the saim wai.—Dr. A. J. Ellis.

KORESPONDENS.

NOU that, for the saik ov ekonomi, we iseu THE PYONEER oenli everi uther munth, it bekumz inkreesingli difikult tu doo justis tu the meni leterz we reseev; tu print them aul, and *in extenso*, wood rekwyr thre tymz the spais that iz at our dispoezal. We welkum the evidens thus aforded ov the spreding interest in our werk, and we ar the laast tu feel enithing but gratifikaishon at this korespondens; we just hav tu apolojyz for not being aibel tu doo mor in the wai ov printing them. We must in meni kaisez konfyn ourselvz tu giving ekstrakts.

Mr. W. GUNDRY, in a leter daited November 1, sujests that *c* shood be euzd tu indikait the "long vouelz," not oenli in the kais ov *ce* and *oe* and *ie* (for which he wood alou *y* "az a substiteut, or at leest an aulternativ"), but aulso in *ae* (for *ai*) and *ue* (for *oo* in "boot"). He sez: "I due not noe why the S.S.S. ever preferd *ai* tu the beter looking and les ambigeuus *ae*." In aanser we mai kwoet from *Proposals for a Simplified Spelling of the English Language*, paij 42:

> A certain appearance of uniformity would have been gained by selecting *ae*, so that four of the five short vowel signs should have corresponding digraphs formed by the addition of *e*. But the combination *ae* occurs only in Scotch (for instance, "brae"), whereas *ai* is by far the commonest notation of the sound, if we except the single *a* (often followed by a consonant + *e*), which cannot be made the normal symbol, as it is already appropriated to another use.

In the ferst edishon ov the *Proposals* the foloing roolz wer sujested for the *oo*, *eu* soundz: — "Sound *ue* in 'hue,' **ue**, but **u** finally, before vowels and before endings beginning with *l*, *r*, *s*, *t* (*-lar*, *-late*, *-lent*, *-lous*, *-rial*, *-rian*, *-rious*, *-sion*, *-tion*). Sound *oo* in 'good, mood,' **oo**; but, after *l*, *r*, *j*, *ch*, *sh*, **ue** (**u** finally, before vowels, and before *l*, *r*, *s*, *t* endings)." The foloing noet woz aded:—"This last suggestion is due to a desire (*a*) not to anticipate unduly the change which is taking place in many words (*e.g.* 'absolute'), where the *u* tends to become *oo*; (*b*) not to extend the use of *oo* unduly."

Theez roolz wer konsiderd az too kumbersum, and *yu* and *uu* wer tryd for sum tym, until thai again had tu yeeld tu *eu* and *oo*.

Nou *eu* okerz long and short (az in "steupid, regeular"), and *oo* aulso (az in "mood, good"), and the mater iz ferther komplikaited by the eus ov *u* tu dezignait the ferst vouel sound in "buter," which iz not an *oo* sound at aul.

Mr. Gundry, in a leter daited November 12, betraiz sum impaishens az tu the kontineud unsertinti in the reprezentaishon ov theez soundz, and (in our opinion) rytli objekts tu the sujestion that the vouelz ov "look" and "luk" shood be spelt in the saim wai. He wood prefer tu euz *u* for the short *oo* sound, and *v* for the sound in "buter." (Utherz hav sujested *w* for the short *oo* sound.) For the long *oo* sound he propoezez *ue*.

Mr. T. ELDERKIN, ov Chesham, ryts tu ekspres hiz aprooval ov Mr. Gundry'z *v* for short *oo*, and sujests *w* for long *oo*. He sez: "I hav never been aibel tu see the ydentiti ov the vouel part ov O.S. 'hew, cue,' ets., with that in O.S. 'you, usual.' The ferst sound ov the difthong seemz tu me much mor lyk a konsonant in the sekond pair." This iz raather serpryzing. Az a rool, the ferst part ov the "difthong" in "hew, cue" iz felt tu be mor distinktli konsonantal than in "you, usual," bekauz it iz parshali or entyrli unvoist.

Mr. C. W. ARMSTRONG, Direktor ov the Gymnasio Anglo-Brazileiro, Rio de Janeiro, sendz an interesting leter, in which he sujests that the Portuguese vouel valeuz shood be euzd az a baisis. If we goe az far az this, we mai az wel goe a litel farther, and adopt the internashonal alfabet; but the eus ov "kontinental" vouel valeuz, az thai ar sumtymz kauld, wood chainj the look ov the langwij entyrli, and wood maik it veri difikult tu reed for thoez not familiar with a kontinental langwij. Eeven then the difikulti wood remain ov indikaiting the length ov vouelz. The simbol adopted in the internashonal alfabet iz not satisfaktori.

Mr. Armstrong sujests that length myt be indikaited by dubling the vouel (which iz aukwerd, and prodeusez the unfamiliar *ii* and *uu*, whyl it givz unfamiliar valeuz tu *ee* and *oo*), or by ading aksents, which ar a poor devys, az we hav repeetedli shoen. The neutral vouel he wood spel *ŭr* and *ŭr* or *ŭ*, *e.g.* "fŭrthŭr, aidiŭ (O.S. "idea"), propŭgeishŭn."

It woz Mr. JOSEPH HOGARTH, ov Johannesburg (P.O. box 1848), hoo ferst euzd the ekspreshon, "reedabel at syt," in konekshon with our eforts; and we hav plezher in printing the foloing kontribeushon from hiz pen, az it emfasyzez whot we sed abuv. He ryts:

REEDABILITI AT SYT.

The seupreem test ov eni sistem ov simplifyd speling iz its reedabiliti at syt. The chainjez ov speling reesentli adopted in THE PYONEER hav imensli inkreest its reedabelnes in komparison with that in eus sum thre yeerz ago. Kompair the foloing egzaampelz:—

manciend, mankynd; bi, by: mi, my: scie, sky; ensurcld, enserkeld; siëns, syens: piëti, pyeti: sobriëti, sobryeti: gruu, groo: tyumult, teumult: tauc, tauk: wauc, wauk: fliing, flying: endyuer, endeur: licwid, likwid; cil, kil: salyut, saleut; muunliet, moonlyt: ceep cwiet cwiët, keep kwyt kwyet: flicering violet lietning, flikering vyolet lytning; pieling hyuj diecs, pyling heuj dyks.

It iz kleer, then, that the reesent chainjez ar much mor reedabel than the oalder S.S. formz, and the thaut aryzez if a stil ferther improovment kvd be maid.

The folowing list iz intended to show hou sum prezent S.S. formz mai be renderd stil mor reedabel. Thus:

being, beeing.	*deist, deeist.*
seing, seeing.	*theist, theeist.*
freing, freeing.	*meuzeum, meuzeeum.*
fleing, fleeing.	*lyseum, lyseeum.*
agreing, agreeing.	*dekreing, dekreeing.*

The abuv werdz, when riten with thair fvl kompliment ov leterz, reprezent the sound mor vizibli to the y, and thairfor ar mor reedabel than the S.S. formz, sum ov which, lyk *seing* and *fleing*, lvk strainj and uneuzeual.

Agen, the lyabiliti ov konfeuzhon in the werdz *seest, seëst* (O.S. *ceased, see-est*) kvd be kleerli avoided by ryting *seest, see-est*.

In the nekst list we hav:

seëst, see-est.	*freëst, free-est.*
fleëst, flee-est.	*seësta, see-esta.*

In the abuv komparison the S.S. formz show raather badli. Thai ar skairsli reedabel, espeshali when the reeder haz no preevius nolij ov S.S.

Aul ov the abuv egzampelz show kleerli that the eus ov the dyeeresis and the eelizhon ov a leter in konekshon with the dygraf *ee* konfer no advantij, az eech werd, when riten in fvl, not oanli sujests the sound, but sujests it promtli and distinktli.

The nekst point kaipabel ov a grait improovment lyz in the dygraf *oe*. Its faults ar the dyeeresis and eelizhon ov a leter. Thus, the werdz *haroe, swoloc, floe, sloc, loe, torpeedoe, ekoe, lasoe*, ets., drop the fynal *e* befor anuther vouel, and konsekwentli bekum *haroing, swoloing, floing, sloër, loëst, torpeedoing, ekoing*, and *lasoing*. The objekshon myt bee raizd heer that, after aul, this iz not a difikulti.

It iz wel nown that meni intelijent men ar freekwentli serpryzd at the simpel thingz which often proov difikult to ordinari peepel. Besydz, the averij man wil simpli ignor eni sistem ov speling which iz not simpel enuf for him to reed at a glans. The prezent S.S. skeem shvd thairfor bee maid to seut the milion; and, in order to doo this, everi point in it which

rekwyrz eksplanaishon shvd bee replaist by sum uther method which needz no eksplanaishon.

The dyeeresis and eelizhon ov a leter ar the too points—the oanli too points, I think, in the prezent skeem—which rekwyer eksplanaishon. In Rippmann and Archer'z *Propoazalz for a Simplifyd Speling* apeerz this staitment on paij 3 : "The dyeeresis iz in eus and mai bee retaind ; but it iz a kweschon whether eeven that myt not bee dispenst with."

Boath theez points mai bee remoovd by adopting the dygraf *ow* insted ov *oe ;* and the abuv egzampelz kvd bee riten with thair fvl kompliment ov leterz, which wvd at the saim tym restor to them in veri meni kaisez thair former familiar apeerans. Thus : *harowing, swolowing, flowing, slower, lowest, torpeedowing, ekowing,* and *lasowing.*

It wil be noatist that the ferst fyv ov theez formz ar oald frendz, beeing repitishonz ov oald spelingz ; and the last three, tho slytli aulterd, yet wair a veri familiar aspekt. The masez wvd rekognyz aul theez werdz at a glans, and the skool teecher kvd oamit aultogether the leson deeling with the eelizhon ov leterz.

Akording to Rippmann and Archer'z bvk, *Propoazalz for a Simplifyd Speling*, thair ar 169 werdz which terminait in a long *o* sound ; but the speling iz vairius—thus, *tableau, hero, though, sew, pillow.* Out ov theez 169 thair ar 61 werdz—mor than a therd—which euz the fynal *ow*, thus, *know, snow, throw.* This klas inkloodz everi verb, everi inflekted ajektiv and inflekted adverb—at eni rait, I kan fynd oanli seven kaisez which end diferentli ; thus, *go, hoe, echo,* ets. For wuns the bad oald speling iz aulmoast konsistent, in that everi fynal long *o* sound which mai bee inflekted euzez the dygraf *ow* aulmoast invairiabli. It aulso haz the merit ov beeing the best terminaishon for ataching inflekshonz, az the folowing komparison in *oe, oa,* and *ow* wil show :

snoe	*snoez*	*snoïng*	*snoï*	*loër*	*slo̤st*
snoa	*snoaz*	*snoaing*	*snoai*	*loaer*	*sloaest*
snow	*snowz*	*snowing*	*snowi*	*lower*	*slowest*

The terminaishon *ow* beeing so komon in the oald speling iz thairfor moast familiar to the masez, and konsekwentli its adopshon for the speling ov aul ov theez 169 werdz—with the eksepshon ov the indeklynabel *no, tho, so*—wvd maik the reedabiliti ov the skeem so much the graiter.

Aultho *ow* iz the moast familiar and the best reprezentativ for the long *o* sound when fynal, yet it iz not so seutabel for the meedial and inishial pozishonz. For this perpos *oa* iz beter. Long ago Mr. Sexton propoazd this dygraf *oa* az a substiteut in plais ov S.S. *oe*. THE PYONEER past a faivorabel koment upon it, and several korespondents euz it. The oald speling euzez this dygraf freekwentli in the inishial and meedial pozishonz, but never fynali eksepting in too kaisez. It promts the long *o* sound kwyt kleerli, az the folowing neu formz wil show ; thus, *provoak, anekdoat, kroakus, groaser, atroashus, feroashus, patroal, foak, teetoatal, toaper,* ets. The folowing formz ilustrait *oa* in the inishial and meedial pozishonz, and *ow* in the fynal ; thus, *oaliow, foaliow, poalow, soalow, embroaliow.*

Everi reformer dislyks euzing too simbolz for wun sound, yet the S.S. skeem haz found it nesesari to euz *aa* and *ar*, and, tho the dygrafs *au* and *or* ar sumtymz distinktivli euzd, nevertheles thai ar mor often interchainjabel than utherwyz. The advantijez which justify theez aulternativ dygrafs ar eeven graiter in the kais ov *oa* and *ow*, the adopshon ov which wvd fynali remoov the dyeeresis, maik eelizhon unnesesari, and saiv meni familiar formz. Uther chainjez and improovments hav been sujested, but nun ov them ofer such grait advantijez az the abuv. Thair adopshon wvd kauz the leest disterbans to the oald speling. Thai wvd introdeus simplisiti in plais of komplikaishonz, and replais strainj and uneuzeual formz with oald and familiar spelingz to such an ekstent that the masez wvd bee aibel to reed the neu Simplifyd Speling aulmoast az rapidli az thair oald diversifyd speling.

Mr. C. B. FAWCETT, B.Litt., B.Sc., Euniversiti Kolej, Southampton, maiks the foloing propoezalz :—

It haz often okerd tu mih dhat wih kud atehn a veri konsiderabl simplifikehshun at wun strohk if wih kud agrih dhat dhe simbol for ihch long vouel shud bih formd bai ading a simpl and konstant mark tu dhe simbol hwich reprezents dhe koresponding short vouel. For such a mark it iz natyural tu think at wuns ov sum daiakritik. Dhis iz, houever, ruhld out for dhe prezent, and in plehs ov it Ai wud sujest dhat dhe leter *h* bih aded tu dhe short vouel simbol. Dhus our faiv long vouelz wud be riten *ah*, *eh*, *ih*, *oh*, *uh*. Ov dhihz kompound simbolz, thrih—*ah*, *eh*, and *oh*—ar awlredi familyar tu awl rihderz ov Inglish az reprezentativz ov dhihz soundz. Anudher, *uh*, iz not kwait nyuh, sins it haz bihn yuhzd frihli in atemts tu reprezent sum, espeshali Amerikan, mohdz ov spihking Inglish. Hens ohnli wun nyuh simbol, *ih*, iz introdyuhst, and dhat fits so natyurali intu dhe skihm dhat it kawzez noh difikulti at awl. Awlso, *ih* haz not bihn yuhzd in dhe ohld speling, and so it haz a klihr start, frih from eni mislihding asohsiehshunz. In fakt, nun ov dhihz simbolz haz bihn yuhzd bifor for eni udher sound dhan dhat for hwich it iz yuhzd hihr.

Dhe advantajez ov dhis simpl and regyular reprezentehshun ov dhe long vouelz sihm tu mih tu inkluhd tuh ov sum importans. (1) It wud at wuns get rid ov dhohz puzling and ilojikal empirikal mohdz ov raiting dhe long vouelz hwich kawz so much diskushun, and giv opohnents ov simplifaid speling so meni ohpningz for ridikyuhl. (2) It wud lihv kombinehshunz ov vouel simbolz frih for dhehr proper lojikal funkshun ov reprezenting kombinehshunz ov vouel soundz—*i.e.* for yuhs az difthongz. Dhus dhe formz *ai*, *oi*, *ou* kud bih yuhzd for dhe vouel soundz ov dhe werdz (ohld speling) "vie, void, vow," hwich wud dhen bih riten "vai, void, vou." (Personali, Ai shud prefer tu rait dhe therd ov dhihz az *au* rahdher dhan *ou* ; and Ai prefer *ai* tu *ei* for dhe ferst.)

Dhe mohst obvius disadvantajez ov dhis skihm sihm tu bih awlso tuh in number. (1) In sum werdz dhis nyuhtral *h* mait bih misred for dhe independent leter *h*, and *v.v.* Dhis difikulti kud bih ohverkum bai inserting a haifen hwehrever nesesari, az in "bih-ing, bi-hohld, bi-haiv, sih-est, bi-hest." But if wun simbol kan hav tuh mihningz dhis difikulti iz unavoidabl. (2) Dhe adopshun ov dhis sujestyun wud sprinkl our pehjez widh a suhperabundans ov *h*'z ; for *h* wud apihr in dhe foloing kompound simbolz : *ah*, *eh*, *ih*, *oh*, *uh*, *yuh*, *ch*, *dh*, *th*, *sh*, *zh*, widh a nyuhtral signifikans, and awlso, widh its ohn independent valyuh, alohn, and widh *w* and *r* az in "hwen" and "rhidhm." Bohth dhihz difikultiz, hwich ar undoutedli sihrius, wud disapihr if dhe tuh mihningz hihr given tu dhe wun simbol, *h*, wer reprezented bai diferent simbolz, or if dhe kompound simbolz riten abuv wer riplehst bai simpl simbolz. But, for rihzonz ov praktikal konvihniens, dhe Sosaieti haz desaided agenst dhe yuhs ov daiakritik marks or dhe introdukshon ov eni nyuh simbolz. Under dhihz kondishunz, and fehling a perfektli nyuhtral simbol, it sihmz best tu yuhz *h* bekawz its yuhs involvz les disterbans dhan wud dhat ov eni udher leter, and dhehrfor it wud form dhe ihziest transizhun from dhe ohld speling. If dhe sujestyun wer adopted it iz veri probabl dhat sum nyuhtral simbol wud kum intu yuhs in taim. Amung dhe kompound konsonantal simbolz ov hwich *h* iz part, dhe *ch* kud bih redyuhst tu *c* az suhn az rihderz and raiterz had had taim tu forget dhe valyuhz ov dhe disyuhzd *c*. Dhus dhe werd hwich in dhe ohld speling iz riten "cheese," mait bih riten, ferst "chihz," and lehter "cihz."

It iz probabl dhat dhe sujestyun put forwerd hihr iz not nyuh : but Ai hav not sihn it eksprest in yuhr pehper, and so ventyur tu send dhis leter. It iz riten in akordans widh its sujestyunz, and so meh bih a help in estimehting dhe apihrans ov Inglish hwen spelt in dhis weh.

[The eus ov *h* tu indikait length ov vouel iz familiar in German, whair it woz formerli fairli komon. It stil okerz, *e.g.* in *ihn*, *Sohn*. We think the ydea iz wun that wil dezerv konsideraishon, aultho this ekstensiv eus ov *h* sertinli givz a strainj look tu the paij. In sum dikshonariz *h* haz been euzd for this perpos.]

THE KAMBRIAN SKYM.

Mr. HUGO DAVIS, Casilla 110, Freire, Chile, ryts on the subjekt ov silabik leterz, euzing hiz Kambrian Skym,* in which the vouelz ar reprezented az foloez —

at	far	met	mate	kin	keen	not	note	fur	pull	pool	awe
a	*aa*	*e*	*ee*	*i*	*y*	*o*	*oo*	*u*	*w*	*ww*	*x*

c = S.S. *ch*, *q* = S.S. *ng*.

I hav just red Mr. Gundry'z inturestiq kontribiwshon. I hav nuthiq tw see abowt daigrafs, az I am not on frendli turmz widh eni ov dhem, and divowtli wish dhee weer xl owt ov dhi wee. But silabik leterz aar laik dhi pwwr—destind tw bi xlweez widh us.

Evidentli it iz e sownd prinsipl in fonetiks tw reprizent evuri sownd dhat iz utrd bai mynz ov e distiqt simbol, but *bl*, *pl*, *dr*, *br*, *sm*, ets., at dhi endz ov wurdz kanot bi pronownst at xl widhowt sowndiq Kam. [= Kambrian Skym simbol] *u* bitwyn dhem; dhat iz, *u* az in "up" iz pleenli hurd when wy pronowns suc turminal konsonants. If so whai weest taim and peepr tw rait dhi vowel if dhi rizult iz dhi seem whedhr wi rait it or not?

Tw us whw [*sic!* This shood, we supoez, be "hww"] hapn tw noo so muc, dhat iz xl veri wel, but dheer aar udhrz tw bi konsidrd. I hav purpusli left owt dhi vowel in raitiq dhyz rimaarks, and I thiqk dhat no ryder ov THE PYONEER wil hav eni difikulti in disaifuriq it.

But xl pypl aar not ov dhi seem bild; e Spaniard or an Italian wwd probabli sownd an *e* az in "net" bitwyn dhi konsonants, az dhee hav not dhi Kam. *u* in dheer laqgwijiz. E Frenchman wwd, moost laikli, prifur tw pwt dhi Kam. *u* aftr dhi last letr in suc wurdz az Kam. "pypl, matr, kazm," ets.; dheerfor tw spel az I dww now wwd nevr dww at xl, unles dheer iz sum remedi.

Iz dheer no remedi eksept insurtiq dhi vowel? I bilyv dheer iz. Dhi difikulti mee bi solvd bai e hard and fast, but e simpl and konsistent, rwwl. Sumthiq tw dhe foloiq ifekt: Dhi vowel *u*, az sownded in "up," must bi pronownst bitwyn xl dhi foloiq konsonants wher dhee hapn at dhi endz ov wurdz: *-bl*, *-pl*, *-dn*, *-tn*, *-pn*, *-fn*, *-br*, *-tr*, *-shn*, *-shr*, ets., booth when in dhi siqgiwlar and in dhi plwwral numbrz; and xlso in dhi past tens ov suc wurdz az "oopnd, syznd, mustrd, ushrd," ets. Ov koors instrukshnz must be givn tw lurnurz dhat dhi vowel *u* must not bi insurted in dhi roq plees, az, for instans, "syznud, ushrud," ets., insted ov "syzund, ushurd," ets.

Dheer aar meni wurdz widh suc endiqz, but dhee aar veri yzili remembrd, yvn if not lurnt bai root: it symz nacural tw dww it.

But I am xl dhi whail rifuring tw *u* Kam. az byiq dhi propr letr tw reprizent dhis sownd, and not *e*, az Mr. Gundry duz, and the lurned Editor symz tw saqkshn dhi praktis. It iz inkomprihensibl tw mi dhat *e* shwd bi pleest tw reprizent dhi sownd ov *u*, az *u* iz in "up, fur, nut," ets.

Dhi Editor sez dhat dhi tuq tuciz dhi rwwf ov dhi mowth bifoor dhi lips aar oopnd in artikiwleetiq suc wurdz az "trublz," whic priklwwdz dhi posibiliti ov pronownsing *e* vowel bitwyn dhi *b* and *l*. Veri laikli. I dww not dowt it—in fakt, I noo hardli enithiq abowt it; thioretikali it shwd bi so, but mai yur telz me dhat it *hyurz* dhi *u* in xl dhooz pozishonz. Dhi sownd kumz from *sumwheer*, yvn if it iz thioretikali imposibl tw sownd it.

Bitwyn wun thiq and anudhr dhat gooz biond mi xltwgedhr. If dhyz aidyaz shwd evr bekum fakts dhi geen in spees wwd bi veri greet indyd, and at prezent I kanot thiqk ov eni valid ryzn whai dhee shwd not bi rialaizd.

[We hav reseevd several uther komeunikaishonz from our Kambrian frend, hoo manijez tu kombyn farming and fonetiks in far-awai Freire. We noetis, with regret, that hiz eer givz him the impreshon ov a vouel sound interveening

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* We kan not refrain from giving our ekselent proofreeder'z witi remark: "Dhis skym teeks sum cwwiq; dhe ryder, nooiq nuthiq ov aljibra, iz fild widh *x* [= 'awe']."

between the *b* and *l* ov "trublz." It iz, no dout, posib*ul* tu sai "trub*ul*," but noebodi duz. Apart from the korekshon ov a feu "klerikal" erorz, we hav printed Mr. Davis'z kontribeushon just az he roet it; it wil help our reederz tu get a beter ydea ov hiz skeem. Insidentali it iz not without interest az throing lyt on hiz pronunsiaishon; eeven the slips that hav been chainjd—*e.g.* "reprisent, pronownz" (S.S. "pronouns"), "pronownsd, risult, pleezd" (S.S. "plaist")—mai hav sum signifikans in this respekt.]

The foloing leter from Mr. EZRA SYKES, ov 51 Headingley Avenue, Leeds, wil giv plezher tu Mr. Hugo Davis, az it suports the eus ov *w* for short *oo*:

> Reesent korespondens indikaits a presing dimaand for a distinktiv leter tw reprizent the short *oo* sound.
>
> The sujested eus ov *v* iz gwd, and the kais iz aibli staited by Mesrz. Hogarth and Gundry.
>
> The fakt that *v* wuns performd the deual deuti ov konsonant and vouel iz, houever, an argeument against its ree-instaitment. The too valeuz ov *v* and *oo* ar so dis-similar that *v* az a vouel proovd a faileur, and it fel intw diseus. Had thair been anuther leter for voist *f*, thair iz no dout that *v* wwd hav been ritaind for short *oo*.
>
> The neerest aproech tw short *oo* iz *w*, which iz meerli a slytli modifyd form ov *oo*. Unaksented short *oo*, in konjunkshon with anuther vouel, nateurali bikumz konsonantal *w*, and *w* mai bee konsistentli euzd for boeth short *oo* and the konsonant *w*, az the difcrens iz wun ov kwontiti raather than ov kwoliti.
>
> Unfamiliariti iz thi oenli objekshon tw *w*, and the saim plee myt bee erjd with eni neu leter.
>
> Test it in eni egzaampl, and it iz satisfaktori. Wun haz oenli tw rimember that inishal *w* and *w* in konjunkshon with a vouel must be unaksented or rideust in kwontiti.
>
> "We wish we kwd pwl twenti bwshelz ov gwd wwl; the wwman wwd weev it."
>
> The werdz "wwl, wwman, wwd" ar the moest grotesk, but thair iz no konfeuzhon when it iz rimemberd that inishal *w* iz aulwaiz unaksented, and thairfor ikwivalent tw former konsonantal *w*.

Mr. SIDNI BOND, Street High 24, Wellington, Somerset, ryts, euzing hiz oen sistem (not without interest):

> Alau mí tu proutest ageinst Mr. Gundry'z proupouzal tu yuuz *v* bouth az konsounant and vauel, and dhws rait "wvd, vouel." Aur konsounants ar satisfaktori: let them aloun. Nwthing shud be ceinjd dhat kan konsistentli remein. If dhi vauelz weir az gud az dhi konsounants, aol wí níd tu du wud bí tu regyularaiz dhi lot, and wí wud dhen hav ei satisfaktori alfabet. Bwt dhi vauelz, wnlaik dhi konsounants, ar houplesli defektiv, and dheirfor níd drastik revizhon. Ai hould dhat nou revizhon iz satisfaktori dhat dwz not prouvaid ei niu simbol for *u* in "gun." Ageinst ei raunded *u*, *v*, iz dhat wwn kanot rait it wel in wwrdz laik "love, vulgar." Ai dheirfor proupouz ei form *w*, mwc yuuzd, dhou for anwdher saund. Dhen "lwv, vwlgar." *V* iz nau satisfaktori: let it aloun.

Mr. (?) P. A. BOWIE, ov 10 Cautley Avenue, Clapham Common, S.W., protests against the speling ov the foloing werdz (in our Oktoeber iseu):—"Sertin, standerd, langwij, euzijez, enkurijing," and sujests that the unaksented vouel wood be beter reprezented by speling the werdz "serten, standard, langwej or langwaj, euzejez, enkurejing." Oelder reederz ov THE PYONEER wil rekaul that we hav diskust the kwestion ov theez endingz. It haz been pointed out that thair iz grait unsertinti (or *-enti*) about our euzij (or *-ej*) in unaksented silabelz [or *-blz* (or *-bulz*, Mr. Davis?)] and that we konsekwentli enkurij (or *-ej*) our reederz tu syn our petishon (or *-shn* or *-shun*) for a Roial Komishon (do. do.) tu enkwyr (or *inkwyr*) intu the kwestion (or *-tiun* or *-tyun* or *-chun*) hou a

standerd (or *-drd*, or *-dard*) kan be sekeurd (or *sikeurd*) for our langwij (or *-ej*, or *-aj*, or *-aij*).

Mr. WILLIAM SHIELD ryts:

Thair iz a mater I hav thaut ov a good deal laitli, and that iz "the naimz ov the leterz ov our alfabet." Theez naimz aut tu be aulterd in order that eech wun shal indikait tu a chyld its sound. Hou kan a chyld be ekspekted tu noe that "jee" reprezents the ferst sound ov "get," that "aich" reprezents the ferst sound ov "hat," and that "dubel eu" reprezents the ferst sound ov "wel"? I think this kwestion aut tu be takeld at wuns, and eech leter be given a fonetik naim.

Perhaps the Komiti consider that this kan not be satisfaktorili dun until thair iz a konsensus ov opinion amungst the memberz az tu whot simbolz shood be euzd for the vouel soundz and difthongz. Iz it not tym that the Sosyeti'z skeem shood be fikst? The oenli difikulti nou seemz tu be the feu vouel soundz which wer tentativli chainjd a few munths agoe, and which tentativ chainjez seem tu hav been adopted tasitli, lyk the chainj from *c* tu *k* woz. If kritisizm has seest, let us kristalyz our skeem and poosh it for aul it iz werth. A frend ov myn hoo iz a member ov the Sosyeti, and hooz akwaintans I maid in konsekwens ov our komon veuz in regard tu speling reform, eksprest this veu tu me yesterdai, and sed that if the vouel soundz wer fikst wuns for aul he wood euz the noetaishonz determind on in hiz korespondens.

My veuz in regard tu the abuv-menshond tentativ chainjez ar as foloez:

yu—eu. I prefer *eu*. It looks beter, iz much eezier tu ryt, and haz the advaantij ov aulredi being euzd in the oeld speling, az, for egzaampel, in "eulogy."

ie—y. I prefer *y* on the hoel.

oo—uu. I think the long and short soundz shood be denoeted by *oo*, provyded wun ov them (at aul events, in kaisez whair konfeuzhon myt aryz) iz given a dyakritik. Kompair (O.S.) "pool" and "pull" and (O.S.) "full" and "fool."

er—ur. I raather lyk the distinkshon between the strest and unstrest soundz, but do not atach much importans tu the retenshon of boeth simbolz. The distinkshon iz ov advaantij in such werdz az "concur" and "conquer."

th. I wood not diferenshiait the voist and voisles soundz at prezent.

Refering tu Mr. Phipson'z remarks in THE PYONEER for laast August mai I aask whot iz deemd tu be the korekt pronunsiaishon ov such werdz az (O.S.) "allude, assume," ets.? In the North, wun skairsli eever heerz "aleud" "aseum" but aulmoest without eksepshon "alood" and "asoom."

Mr. R. GRANT BROWN haz forwerded sertin propoezalz for a modifyd sistem ov simplifyd speling for which we unforteunaitli hav no spais in the prezent iseu.

We hav aulso reseevd leterz from Mr. JOHN STALKER (Earsdon, Newcastle-on-Tyne), and from Mr. GERALD A. MOORE (Wellington House, Ringmer, Sussex), with which we hoep tu deel in our nekst iseu.

Barbarus "-ough."

I spel "honour" and "favour" without the *u*, and I mai yet kum tu "katalog" and "filosofi." At eni rait, I shood not kair tu be an obstruktiv in the wai ov eni wel organyzd, skolarli atemt tu reform our English—and American—langwij. It iz sertinli barbarus tu maik *-ough* taik so meni formz ov pronunsiaishon (nyn) az it nou duz. Thair ar meni thingz I shood lyk tu hav a glims ov a hundred yeerz from nou, and amung the rest our English speling. I hav litel dout that meni ov the chainjez kontemplaited wil hav taiken plais, and that I shood look bak upon myself in 1880 az a hoeples bigot tu seuperaneuaited noeshonz long sins ekstinkt.—OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES.

NOETS AND NEUZ.

The membership ov the Sosyeti nou numberz 2534.

It iz with deep regret that we anouns that Mr. Basil Watt, wun ov our memberz, haz been kild fyting in France.

Ferst Step Simplifikaishon.

We hav reseevd a kopi ov the "Friends' Library *Catalog*," Newcastle-on-Tyne. Wun ov our memberz iz responsibel for the inovaishon.

T. Atkins—Werdmaiker.

"Our armi in France"—so runz an interesting noet in the "Standard"—"iz nou bizili engaijd with the French tung, and meni kwaint werdz ar being evolvd. Sum ov them mai in feuteur yeerz puzel the brain ov the steudent, for when wuns the 'finisht artikel' iz ternd out, its konekshon with the orijinal (jenerali peurli fonetik) iz ofen ekstreemli obskeur. It iz, thairfor, wel werth whyl tu noet sum ov theez neu werdz whyl thai ar in the maiking.

"Taik, for egzaampel, the werd 'nahpooh.' When a man iz boeld out by a shel or a bulet he iz 'nahpooh'd,' and the werd iz so much in eus, noetabli amung Scottish troops, that it looks az if it had kum tu stai. But hoo, fifti yeerz hens, wood ges that it woz a ruf-and-redi kontrakshon ov 'il n'y en a plus'? 'Showlow,' for hot wauter (*eau chaude*), iz eezier tu trais, but 'dooly' for milk (*du lait*) wil be mor perpleksing. Anuther ekspreshon komonli in eus, and wun which bairz witnes—if eni ferther evidens iz needed—tu the everlaasting good heumor ov our soeljerz, iz that by which advers kritisizm ov eni objekt iz eksprest. If the sigarets ar not kwyt tu the taist ov Mr. Atkins, or if the egz suplyd ar ov the kynd deskrybd bi the lait Dan Leno az 'just egz,' thai ar 'no bonn—allemonn.'"

Typists and Poor Speling.

"Komplaint iz maid by the London Kounti Kounsil that meni ov the gerlz taiking lesonz in typryting ar ov a loe standerd ov edeukaishon, and hav an inkompleet nolej ov speling and punkteuaishon. Rekognyzing that it iz eusles tu train such gerlz az typists, the Kounsil sujests that in feuteur thair shal be a preliminari egzaminaishon befor steudents kan enter the typryting klaasez."—"Standard."

It kan not be enkurijing yther tu theez gerlz or tu thair teecherz tu reflekt that werk which shood hav been dun thuroeli in the skoolroom haz tu be dun oever again befor it kan stand the test ov praktis. Wood this be toleraited in uther feeldz ov efort?

Biznes Kolej permits Simplifyd Speling.

Mr. Gilbert H. Richardson ryts: "We understand that everi yeer a konsiderabel number ov Englishmen ar prohibited from serving thair kuntri bekauz ov thair mor than averaij lojikal sens, by the speling tests ov the Sivil Servis egzaminaishonz. Hens it mai interest eu tu noe that a sertin edeukaishonal institeushon—the Sheldon Skool ov Biznes, Empyr Hous, Kingsway, London, permits its steudents tu euz Simplifyd Speling in ryting the paiperz rekwyrd for thair kors."

The Vois ov Authoriti.

We publisht in our laast number a list ov grait men hoo hav been speling reformerz. The list woz impresiv, but inkompleet. Mr. Henry Drummond suplements it with the foloing naimz:—Dr. Thirlwall (Bishop ov St. David's), Archbishop Temple, Joseph Cowen, John Gorst, Dr. Lees, Herbert Spencer,

Lord Sherbrooke, Ser Charles E. Trevelyan, Henry Labouchere, Dr. Wallace, Ser William Jones.

A Speling Kwip.

A reeder kontribeuts an apokrifal tail ov a man hoo woz puzeld az tu the pronunsiaishon ov the werd "pneumonia," bekauz he had herd wun authoriti pronouns it *faital*.

Railwaiz and Speling Reform.

"Peepel hav been veri redi in the paast tu sneer at the sloenes ov the suthern railwaiz, but theez lynz hav been the swiftest tu adopt that grait reform, Simplifyd Speling. At St. Paul'z Staishon, the noetis bord laast week egzibited 'Alterations of Trains for Wensday, Dec. 1.'"—"London Opinion."

"Waifairing Men, tho Foolz, shal not er thairin."

Hou tu Pronouns "Cinema."—Hou tu pronouns "cinema" was diskust in the Hy Korts on Saterdai. Mr. Justis Coleridge herd a kais in which the kounsel (Mr. Patrick Hastings) pronounst the werd az "sinema." "'Kinema,' pleez," sed the juj. Kounsel sed it woz euzheual in publik thuroefairz tu pronouns the werd az tho it wer spelt with an *s*. "But this kort iz not a publik thuroefair," observd the juj.—"Morning Advertiser."

We look forwerd tu the dai when it wil be imposibel for lerned jujez, or eni wun els, thus tu diskredit the pronunsiaishon ov the "publik thuroefair." Modern kondishonz maik an orthografi which wil enshoor this far mor nesesari nou than a hundred yeerz agoe. We hav groing up amung us an inkreesing bodi ov yung men and wimen hoo, altho thai hav not had an oportuniti ov miksing with the publik skool and Euniversiti klaasez, hav bookish taists and kultivaited myndz. Thai ar the yung peepel hoo atend politekniks, reed peni literari weekliz, and suport debaiting sosyetiz. Meni ov theez hav a larj "ryting," but a poor "speeking," vokabeulari; thai ar handikapt bekauz thai hav not had an oporteuniti ov heering werdz az thai ar pronounst by edeukaited speekerz. Hou abserd tu limit soeshali a klaas which haz solid verteuz and werthi ambishonz!

The "Kinema" Krank.

This iz not the ferst tym we hav met with this egzibishon ov pompus pedantri. We wood aask the juj whether he kaulz it a "kineema," az the sekond silabel iz long in Greek; and whether he korekts kounsel for saiing "bysikel" and insists on "bykikel," and whether he tauks about "kemeteriz," "kentaurz," "kykloenz," "kilinderz," and "kiniks."

Whot iz tu be the Standerd Speech?

Mr. Andrew Brodrick haz been ekstending hiz mishonari eforts tu the "Ironmonger," and haz sukseeded in konvinsing that jernal that "sum standerdyzaishon ov pronunsiaishon iz veri nesesari bekauz, aultho the diverjensiz ar not at prezent seerius, thai wil bekum mor markt az tym goez on, and, if ignord, wood konseevabli bekum so grait that in feuteur jeneraishonz Americanz and Canadianz myt be unaibel tu understand a Londoner or a Scotchman, and this wood leed tu the eventeual disintegraishon ov the English langwij." The "Ironmonger," houever, maiks a komparativli myld proetest against the chois ov Suthern English az the standerd form, and hints that the North mai hav sumthing tu sai on the mater.

NEU MEMBERZ.

Aneual Memberz.

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PRES KUTINGZ.

Oktoeber and November.

LETERZ STRONGLI ADVOKAITING REFORMD SPELING wer publisht in: **Country Life, Dundee Advertiser, Durham Chronicle, Education, Educational Times, Liverpool Journal of Commerce, Pitman's Journal, Schoolmaster, Sheffield Independent, Sheffield Evening Telegraph, Standard** (4 leterz), **Yorkshire Post.**

ARTIKELZ DEVOETED ENTYRLI TU SPELING REFORM apeerd in: **Ayrshire Post, Durham Advertiser, Eastern Morning News, Greenock Herald, Helensburgh News, School Child and Juvenile Worker, Schoolmaster.**

LEKTEURZ reesentli deliverd by Prof. Rippmann, Mr. Robert Jackson, and Mr. Ezra Sykes wer reported in the foloing paiperz:—**Ayrshire Post, Hallamshire Teacher, Sheffield Independent, Sheffield Telegraph, Surrey Herald.**

LETERZ AND ARTIKELZ kontaining referensez tu speling wer noeted in: **London Evening News, Northern Echo, Standard, Star.**

TOO LETERZ OBJEKTING TU THE AIMZ OV THIS SOSYETI wer obzervd in: **Dundee Advertiser, Standard.**

EDITORIAL NOET.

IT haz been desyded tu publish THE PYONEER everi uther munth until pees iz restord. The Editor'z adres iz 45 Ladbroke Grove, London, W.

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Reederz ar erjd tu aply for leeflets seting forth the aimz ov the Sosyeti. Theez and aul uther informaishon wil be gladli sent by the Sekretari ov the Simplifyd Speling Sosyeti, 44 Great Russell Street, London, W.C.

THE PYONEER

OV SIMPLIFYD SPELING

VOL IV,

FEBROOARI—DESEMBER, 1915.

PUBLISHT BY THE

SIMPLIFYD SPELING SOSYETI,

44 GREAT RUSSELL STREET, LONDON, W.C.

1915.

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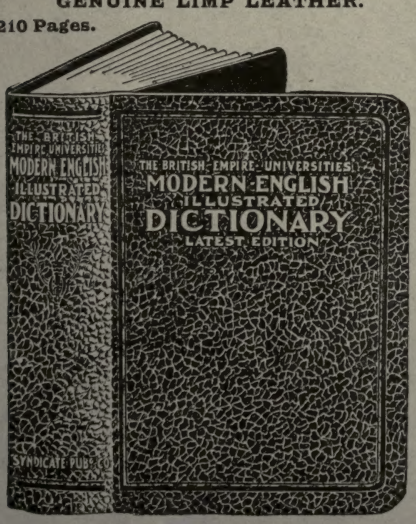

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